



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Division

Federal Programs Branch

February 5, 2025

VIA ECF

The Honorable Philip M. Halpern
United States District Judge
Southern District of New York
300 Quarropas Street
White Plains, NY 10601

Re: *Students for Fair Admissions v. United States Military Academy at West Point et al.*, No. 23 Civ. 8262

Dear Judge Halpern:

Pursuant to Local Rule 1.4, I respectfully request the Court's leave to withdraw as counsel for Defendants in the above-referenced matter. I am leaving the U.S. Department of Justice on February 7, 2025. The Government will continue to be represented by other counsel from the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York and the Federal Programs Branch of the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Division. My withdrawal as an attorney of record will not affect any deadlines or cause any delay in this matter. Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Court grant my request to withdraw as counsel of record.

Sincerely,

/s/ Chris Edward Mendez

Chris Edward Mendez

Trial Attorney

U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch

1100 L Street, NW

Washington, DC 20005

Tel: (202) 451-7323

Email: chris.e.mendez@usdoj.gov

Counsel for Defendants